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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/843,008	04/26/2001	Masahiko Yamanami	14573	8408

7590 10/22/2002
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400 Garden City Plaza
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EXAMINER

DI GRAZIO, JEANNE A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2871

DATE MAILED: 10/22/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/843,008

Applicant(s)

YAMANAMI, MASAHIKO

Examiner

Jeanne A. Di Grazio

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 April 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Applicant claims foreign priority to April 26, 2000 (Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-125460).

Specification

Please note spelling and or grammatical corrections to the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jung (USPN 6,421,231 B1) in view of Yeager et al. (USPN 6,002,582).

Per claims 1-5 (method): A step of inserting said display panel in said predetermined panel-mounting case through at least one first spacer, whereby said at least one first spacer is sandwiched between a back face of said display panel and an inner main-face of said panel-mounting case; a step of fixedly holding said display panel in said panel-mounting case with at least two holding members, disposed at different positions from each other; and a step of covering edge portions of said display panel in said panel-mounting case with said predetermined panel-edge cover; and whereby said display panel is mounted in said predetermined common display panel housing.

The mounting method further comprises the steps of: positioning and fixing said display panel along its up-and-down direction panel with at least one second spacer, wherefore said at least one second spacer is provided between a lower inner side face of said panel-mounting case and a lower outer side face of said display panel ... wherein said various kinds of display panels are different from each other in any one of shape, thickness, picture quality, and display

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screen size ... wherein said at least two holding members, said at least one first spacer and said at least one second spacer are used in combination in accordance with each of said various kinds of display panels ... wherein said at least two holding members are fixed to said panel-mounting case by screw-fixing or fitting.

Discussion: Jung does not appear to teach specifically the same methods as claimed by Applicant; however, Jung does teach a method of inserting a display panel into a standard-sized rear receiving case. Jung does not appear to disclose at least one first spacer; however, Yeager et al. does disclose a plurality of spaced apart tabs [Fig. 3, Ref. Element 46a] located in similar positions as claimed by Applicant. Jung teaches the step of fixing the display panel into the mounting case with a plurality of brackets and bosses which are at different positions from each other. Furthermore, Yeager et al. discloses the use of a bezel for covering edge portions of the LCD [Col. 1, Lines 23-25]. The display panel is then mounted into a common display panel housing as taught in Jung.

Yeager et al. teaches the method of slidably urging a display panel in a direction through a series of second tabs [Col. 3, Lines 32-36].

Yeager et al. further teaches that various sized LCDs and display devices can be accommodated [Col. 4, Line 12]. Jung also teaches that various sized LCDs and display devices can be accommodated in the Jung design.

Jung does not appear to teach the methods of incorporating first and second spacers as previously noted; however, Yeager et al. does teach the use of first and second spaced apart tabs. In Yeager, the spaced apart tabs are used in combination with various sized devices.

Jung teaches the method of screw-fixing bosses and brackets.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to incorporate the methods as taught by Yeager et al. into the methods as taught by Jung to simplify manufacturing thereby reducing manufacturing time and cost. It is highly desirable to manufacture a common sized receiving case that can be easily adapted to accommodate various sized display devices as taught by Jung and Yeager et al..

Claims 6-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jung (USPN 6,421,231 B1) in view of Yeager et al. (6,002,582).

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Per claims 6-10: A predetermined panel-mounting case for inserting said display panel therein; a predetermined panel-edge cover for covering edge portions of said display panel; at least one first spacer sandwiched between a back face of said display panel and an inner main-face of said panel-mounting case, such that said display panel is placed in said predetermined panel-mounting case through at least one first spacer; at least two holding members disposed at different positions from each other, with which said display panel is fixedly held in said panel-mounting case; wherein edge portions of said display panel are covered in said panel-mounting case with said predetermined panel-edge cover; and whereby said display panel is mounted in said predetermined common display panel housing.

The display panel housing further comprises:

at least one second spacer for positioning and fixing said display panel along its up-and-down direction panel, wherefore said at least one second spacer is provided between a lower inner side face of said panel-mounting case and a lower outer side face of said display panel

said various kinds of display panels are different from each other in any one of shape, thickness, picture quality, and display screen size

said at least two holding members, said at least one first spacer and said at least one second spacer are used in combination in accordance with each of said various kinds of display panels

said at least two holding members are fixed to said panel-mounting case by screw-fixing or fitting.

Discussion: Jung does not appear to disclose the use of first and second spacers; however, Yeager et al. does disclose the use of a plurality of spaced apart tabs to aid in fixably mounting a display device. Jung also teaches the use of brackets and bosses than can be adapted to accommodate various sized displays. Both Jung and Yeager et al. have a common sized case for receiving the display panel and predetermined panel edge covers. Jung teaches brackets and bosses that hold the display. Both Yeager et al. and Jung disclose casings capable of receiving various sized devices. Yeager et al. further discloses the use of holding members

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and spaced apart tabs in conjunction with the holding members. As previously noted, Jung discloses the use of screw-fixing.

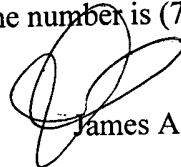
It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to incorporate those elements of Yeager et al. into the design of Jung to reduce manufacturing developing time and cost.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeanne A. Di Grazio whose telephone number is (703)305-7009. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Sikes can be reached on (703)308-4842. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)746-8741 for regular communications and (703)746-8741 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0956.

Jeanne Andrea Di Grazio



James A. Dudek, Primary Examiner

JDG

October 15, 2002